The Phantom Lover By Ruby Ayres

Micky Mellowes, matrimonial catch, diverts the mind of a girl he finds erying on the street from the houghts of exicide with which she had wrestled. Returning to his apartment, he finds his friend, Ashton, who says he is leaving foun and his sweetheart at his mother's request and asks Mellowes to deliver a letter to the girl. Hinky discovers the girl, Esther Sheptone, to be the one he had met crying on the street. Instead of delivering the letter Ashton gave him he writer conforts Esther. One day when the velums to her room 'she finds June Mason, another boarder in the house, there. June expresses the wish that they should be friends. She learne that June and Micky are old friends and that Micky is wealthy. June interfer withoppiness because of no word from Ashton. Micky writes answer of the Mason, when they should be friends. THIS STARTS THE STORY smather, a kindlier one, and signs Ashton's name to it. The letter conforts Esther. One day when she velous to her room 'she finds Jane Mason, another boarder in the house, there. June expresses the wish that they should be friends. She learns that Jane ond Micky are old friends and that Micky is wealthy. June in vites Micky to tea, and tells him about Esther's unhappiness because of no word from Ashton. Micky writes another letter in Ashton's name and sends his man, Driver, to Paris to mail to friends that he had seen Ashton out driving with the same ladge on two occasions.

AND HERE IT CONTINUES

ASHTON had soon found consolation, Micky thought savagely. He wondered what Esther would say if she could know. What was Driver thinking shout it all? Driver was as safe as the ball ind to give himself away to his valet.

He looked up at the clock. Past 2: So there would not be another post in tonight.

Esther had not answered his note, and there would may had elapsed.

June Mason was mixing perfume the following morning when a little knock came at her door.

She looked up from her work and that tangent if id said I was unfortunate enough to be rich. I was not derich in the house. You didn't even write to me from your real address—you just put a number out being throat an ampry little laugh. "I suppose you thought is shoulders." She broke into an angry little laugh. "I suppose you thought is houdin't even write to me from your real address—you just put a understand that a number can also be another. She broke into an angry little laugh. "I suppose you thought is houdin't even write to me from you freal address—you just put a understand that a number can

rew whole days had elapsed.

June Mason was mixing perfume the following morning when a little knock following morning when a little knock for the following follo

"Certainly; there might have been mething" was the answer she received. Call sgain temorrow, if you please." Eather went out dispiritedly. There are noney girls of her own class ad age in the bare waiting room; she ill quite sure that they would all get eiths before she had a chance. She felt glad that she had June alson to go back to. June was always mpathetic. She went straight up-

of the door before she had t was you. I heard your the matter? You sounded ou came upstairs."

thed ou must have second sight, they call it. But you're me: I am rather down on ey haven't anything at the it me. I—" She stopped. suff me. I—" She stopped, and June into the cosy room to the half just risen from a chair free—a tall man—who looked her with eyes that were half-half-deflant, Micky Mellowes. CHAPTER VII

orduced Micky and Esther of hurried self-conscious-s not by her invitation that here this afternoon, and the he had asked him to help need her. Shepstone: eard of each other, so I to entertain one another

ed out of the room.
d after her with angry
ught June might have
sk a quick step forward
ack, but Micky stopped
hand on the door above
fast.

im angrity; she was very speak to me like that. If has asked you here to meet

him short, tell me the truth about made out you were poor! (CONTIN to be some one quite dif-

micky laughed to himself as he went down the states, he wondered if he was getting clever, or if June was not so quick to see a thing as he had believed that she had not noticed the constraint between himself and Esther.

He picked up a taxlcab at the corner of the road and was driven back to his flat.

There were several letters lying on the table; he flicked them through disin-

CHAPTER VIII

Esther climbed the stairs of the agency again the following morning. There was a little feeling of despondency in her heart. She had slem hadly, and she had not been able to forget what June had said about Ashton.

Esther was influenced by June's "instincts," as she chose to call them; she knew it was foolish, but the fact remained all the same.

When she opened the waiting room door she felt half inclined to turn and go away again. She would only meet with the same snewer; "Nothing that will suit you today, Miss Shepstone."

But for a wonder the room was almost empty, and the tail and stately one was standing at the gommunicating door.

When she saw Esther she came forward.

when she saw states and call. Miss ward.
"I was hoping you would call. Miss Shepatone. Will you come into my room?"
Esther's heart leaped, she obeyed

Eather's near teapers, and the table looking rather bored and britisted. She was gray-haired and handsome, and must beautifully dressed. She turned slightly when Eather entered, and stared at her through her lorgnette, then she looked at the stiff and stately and stared.

one. "Is this—er—the young lady?" she asked
"Yes, madam—this is Miss Shepstone." The stately one introduced Exther with a wave of her hand. "This
lady, Miss Shepstone, is looking for a
companion. Some one who can work
well—and read aloud." She looked at
Esther sharply. "Can you read aloud."
she asked.

on bigs asked you here to meet didn't know I was coming. She more idea than the dead that ever meet before. I haven't afth I don't suppose you have the added grimly "However, alone, will you tell me what to offend you? It's not fair me for a friend and then fling as if I were an old glove ""That is a minor detail." the lady must to tell me how and give me to explain."

That is a minor detail. The lady with the lorgnette interrupted "Miss she postone. I am not wanting a companion in the ordinary sense of the word. That is to say, I do not want her to be constantly with me. You will write letters to see me or to allow the your out. The went on urange is to see me or to allow the you out. The went of urange is there with a washed to the fire and to make the most of them.

And you haven't even analy list letter. If I have of haven't," said Either, as hours of the day. You will write letters the most of them.

"Twenty-four," said Either, as hour of a fall offended."

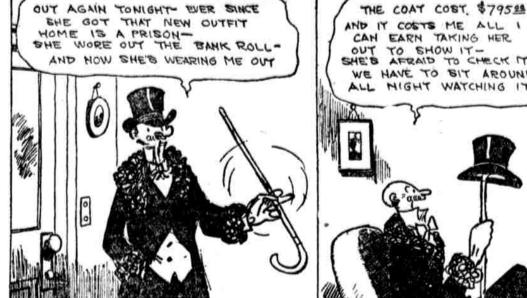
"Twenty-four," said Either. "Humph! And what have you done up till now."

Esther sharply. "Can you read aloud." She looked at Either sharply. "Can you read aloud." She looked at Either sharply. "Can you read aloud." She looked at Either sharply. "Can you read aloud." She looked at Either sharply. "Can you read aloud." She looked at Either sharply. "Can you read aloud." She looked at Either sharply. "Can you read aloud." She looked at Either sharply. "Can you read aloud." She looked at Either sharply. "Can you read aloud." She looked at Either sharply. "Can you read aloud." She looked at Either sharply. "Can you read aloud." She looked at Either sharply. "Can you read aloud." She looked at Either sharply. "Can you read aloud." She looked at Either sharply. "Can you read aloud." She looked at Either sharply. "Can you read aloud." She looked at Either sharply. "Can you read aloud." She looked at Either sharply. "Can you read aloud." She looked at Either sharply. "Can you read aloud." She looked at Either sharply. "Can you read aloud." She looked at Either

(CONTINUED MONDAY)

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THE GUMPS-Come on, Winter



CAH EARN TAKING HER OUT TO SHOW IT -SHE'S AFRAID TO CHECK IT -WE HAVE TO BIT AROUND MIGHT WATCHING IT

THE FIRST THING SHE LOOKS FOR IN THE NEWSPAPER IS THE WEATHER REPORT-WHEN BHE SEES RAIN OR HIGHER TEMPERATURE SHE GETS SORE PRAYING FOR COLD WEATHER ALL THE TIME - KEEPS SAYING I WONDER IF WE'RE EVER GOING TO HAVE WINTER -



By Sidney Smith

By Hayward

SOMEBODY'S STENOG-The Boss Forgot Something

TES-HERE - IVE FIGURED YOU LEGAL WORKING WEEK FOR RING? GIRLS UNDER 21.15 48 HOUR OUR OFFICE SCHEDULE IS 44 HOURS A WEEK. PUTTING ON AND TAKING OFF WRAPS, TEN MINUTES, FOUR TIMES A DAY IS 4 HOURS . GABBING WITH VENUS SIX MINUTES TWENTY TIMES A DAY = 12 HOURS -

DAY = 4 HOURS . LUNCH WITH CHARLIE 3 TIMES A WEEK, 1/2 HOURS EACH, AND GABBING ABOUT SAID LUNCHES = 4 HOURS CANDY DRILL . 30 MINUTES DAILY IS 3 HOURS. MANICURE ON OFFICE TIME TOTAL LOSS ! HOUR. DEATIST, DRESS MAKER, HAIRDRESSER, SHOE REPAIRERS, AVERAGE I HOUR DAILY = 6 HOURS - GRAND TOTAL SO FAR IS 34 HOURS -

PHONING MAUDE TO MINUTES 4 TIMES A

Copyright, 1929, by Public Ledger Co. SWAPPING BUILDING GOSSIP WITH BOOTBLACK, 20 MINUTES & DAY,
SIX DAYS = 2 HOURS STALLING WITH
ED, MOE, NEWTON ET AL, TO WORRY CHARLIE, 30 MINUTES DAILY = 3 HOURS. AVERAGE LATE COMING IS MINUTES AVERAGE EARLY LEAVING 20 MINUTES THAT'S 4/2 HOURS - GRAND TOTAL 43% HOURS A WEEK - LEAVES 1/2 HOUR FOR) WORK

BOSS, CAN I HAVE AN HOUR OFF TO GO OVER TO SMITH'S REDUCTION SALE ? - He Boss"

OH THAT REMINDS ME.

The Young Lady Across the Way



Aunt Eppie Hogg, the Fattest Woman in Three Counties By Fontaine Fox THERE IT IS NOW AUNT EPPIE! DONCHA SEE IT Eppie has seen an aeroplane she has had to want till it was almost level with The eye and only a faint speck in the distance.







C.A Voigh



THE CLANCY KIDS—Bright Boy, This Timmie



